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Crack Cocaine Trafficker Receives 15+Year Federal Sentence

Portland, Maine: United States Attorney Paula D. Silsby announced that Shaheen Curry, 31, of Lynn, Massachusetts was sentenced today in U.S. District Court to over 15 years in prison for his role in trafficking crack cocaine. U.S. District Court Judge D. Brock Hornby imposed the sentence following Curry's guilty plea entered in February 2008.

Curry pled guilty to conspiring to distribute and possess with intent to distribute cocaine base, commonly referred to as crack cocaine. Curry was arrested in August 2007 after he arranged to sell and attempted to deliver crack cocaine to an undercover informant working with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Scarborough Police Department (SPD).

Because Curry's criminal history includes at least one prior conviction for a felony crime of violence as well as a prior conviction for a felony controlled substance offense, Curry was determined to be a "career offender." Such offenders are subject to increased prison terms under the federal sentencing guidelines.

U.S. Attorney Silsby praised the investigative efforts of the DEA, SPD and the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency. U.S. Attorney Silsby stated that this conviction is significant because it sends a strong message that those who choose to traffic such drugs in Maine will be prosecuted and face stiff penalties.